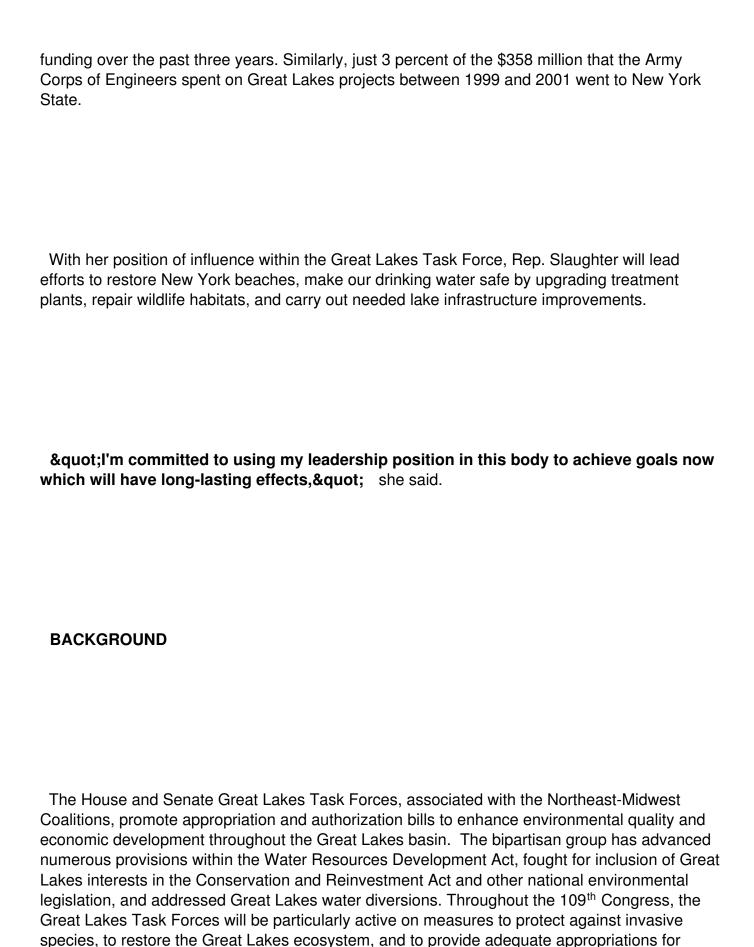
Slaughter Announces Co-Chairmanship of Congressional Great Lakes Task Force

Bipartisan Group Will Promote Great Lakes Environmental, Infrastructure Issues

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, today announced that she has been named Co-Chair of the Congressional Great Lakes Task Force. The bipartisan body, composed of both Senators and Representatives, will work to promote the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem, as well as to improve infrastructure needed for environmental protection, economic growth, and the safety of the region's residents.

" The citizens of New York want to confront threats to the ecosystem of the Great Lakes, as well as threats from nature, head-on, equot; Rep. Slaughter said. equot; am excited about working with the Task Force to set in motion the plans which will clean up our contaminated brownfields sites, protect our wildlife from further harm, defend citizens from preventable natural disasters, and harness the power of the Great Lakes as an economic catalyst for the region, equot; she added.

In recent years, a lack of federal funding has hurt efforts to protect the Great Lakes ecosystem in New York from pollution, in addition to having limited infrastructure improvements needed to defend nearby residents against damage caused by storms. With 33 percent of the Great Lakes coastline, New York has received between less than ten percent of the Great Lakes program



Great Lakes programs.

There are two Senate GLTF Co-Chair positions, held by Senator Carl Levin and Senator Mike DeWine. There are four House Co-Chair positions, currently held by Representatives John Dingell, Vernon Ehlers, Mark Kirk, and Louise M. Slaughter. A complete list of the Members of Congress who compose the Task Force can be found by clicking here.